

PSITTACUS PORPHYRIO.



CHARACTER GENERICUS.

Rostrum aduncum : mandibula superiore mobili,
cera instructa.

Nares in rostri basi.

Lingua carnosæ, obtusa, integra.

Pedes scanforii.

Lin. Syst. Nat.

CHARACTER SPECIFICUS.

PSITTACUS submacrourus, violaceo-cyaneus,
capite subcristato, gula albida.

Perexigua hæc Psittaci species inter elegantissimas sui generis merito locum obtinet. Color illi est admodum violaceus, gula pectorisque parte superiori exceptis, quæ albicant, in quibusdam speciminibus subfusco obumbrata. Rostrum pedesque rubescunt. Capitis plumæ fere in cristam sunt productæ, ut in Psittaco Porphyrocephalo in Numero primo hujus operis expresso. Huic aviculæ singulare quoddam est, (quod et Lathamium in Synopsi Avium non effugit,) lingua nempe quæ generi obtusa et brevis est, in hac specie longa est, et fasciculo, seu penicillo setularum albarum terminata. Insulam Otaheitee, in Oceano Australi, incolit hæc species.

T H'E
VIOLET-BLUE PARRAKEET.



GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill hooked. Upper mandible moveable.
Tongue broad, fleshy, and obtuse.
Legs rather short. Toes formed for climbing,
viz. two forward and two backward.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER.

VIOLET-BLUE PARRAKEET, with the tail somewhat elongated; head rather crested; throat white. Length about 5 Inches, or somewhat more.

OTAHEITAN BLUE PARRAKEET.

Latham. Synops. p. 59.

N. B. This bird and the Pfitacus Porphyrocephalus figured in the First Number of *this* work, are very nearly of the same size and proportion.

This diminutive species is one of the most elegant of its tribe. Its colour is a beautiful deep violet, except on the throat and upper part of the breast, where it is white; but in some specimens slightly tinged with dusky.



Fregata aquila Linn. 1758. p. 121. n. 1.

dufky. The bill and legs are reddifh, and the feathers on the head are elongated, fo as to form a flight creft, in the fame manner as in the *Pfittacus Porphyrocephalus*, defcribed in the Firft Number of this work.

A very curious circumftance relative to this little bird, has been obferved by Mr. Latham in his *Synopsis of Birds* ; viz. that the tongue, which in the reft of the genus is blunt and fhort, is in this fpecies long, and terminated by a fort of pencil of fhort white briftles.

It is a native of the Ifland of Otaheitee in the Southern Hemisphere.